

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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March 16, 2004

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To:

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Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

David E. Janssen 🖰

Chief Administrative Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Assembly Budget Hearing

On Monday, March 15, 2004, the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health and Human Services convened its first hearing on the Governor's proposed 2004-05 budget. The Subcommittee took the same action as its Senate counterpart and rejected the proposed enrollment caps for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). Pursuant to Board policy, our Sacramento advocates testified in opposition to the caps. The Assembly will consider other proposed enrollment caps at its April 12, 2004 meeting.

Medi-Cal Reform

The Administration will begin its workgroup process for redesigning California's Medi-Cal Program this week with meetings in Los Angeles. As previously reported, the Administration's goals for redesigning the program include: (1) protecting eligibility for those currently enrolled; (2) continuing to make serving children in Medi-Cal, a priority; (3) promoting work participation by continuing coverage of the working poor and allowing people to continue to maintain coverage while their income increases; and (4) improving program effectiveness and accountability by promoting managed care. Meetings will continue in March and April and will alternate between Los Angeles and Sacramento. The Administration is expected to release its redesign proposal in the May Revision. For further information on Medi-Cal Reform, please visit its website, www. medi-calredesign.org.

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March State Finance Report

While the March Finance Department Report sought to find encouragement in revised state employment numbers for 2003, which show an average monthly gain of 4,600 instead of a loss of 3,500, the employment gains do not seem to be helping State finances. Personal income tax revenues in February were \$143 million below the forecast. Year-to-date, they are \$393 million below forecast. While sales and use tax receipts were \$427 million above the monthly forecast, the increase is primarily a result of late payments. Year-to-date, sales tax revenues are \$130 million below the forecast. Only corporation tax revenues are up for the year, some \$58 million above the forecast.

We will continue to keep you advised.

DEJ:GK MAL:JF:JR:ib

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
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Local 660
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Legislative Strategist
Coalition of County Unions
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City Managers Associations
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